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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 TRSE-00

OIC-02 /069 W
---------- 039773
O R 151756Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0119
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07897

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, UK, FR, GW, WB, NATO
SUBJECT: 1975 SPRING QUADRIPARTITE MEETING

REF: A) STATE 112025; B) STATE 110917; C) BONN 7807;
D) BONN 7745

BEGIN SUMMARY: AT MAY 15 BONN GROUP MEETING, UK REP ASKED THAT QUADRIPARTITE BREAKFAST BE SET FOR MAY 27, FOR REASONS UK HAD ALSO EXPRESSED IN DEPARTMENT MAY 14. BOTH FRG AND FRENCH REPS THOUGHT 27TH WOULD BE ACCEPT-ABLE; US REP NOTED QUESTION UNDER CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON. FRG AND FRENCH REPS HAVE NO INSTRUCTIONS ON SENIOR LEVEL MEETING BUT PERSONALLY CONSIDER ONE USEFUL, EVEN IF IT MUST FOLLOW MINISTERIAL BREAKFAST. UK REP SAYS LONDON WILL PARTICIPATE IF CONSENSUS IS TO
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HOLD MEETING. AFTER PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE

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BERLIN PASSAGE FOR NATO COMMUNIQUE, REPS WENT OVER DRAFT TEXT OF BONN GROUP PAPER FOR QUADRIPARTITE BREAKFAST. DRAFT NOW BEING REVISED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION MAY 16 AND IDENTIFICATION OF KEY ISSUES ON WHICH MINISTERS MIGHT WISH FOCUS DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

1. WORKING BREAKFAST ARRANGEMENTS. UK REP (CROMARTIE) REPORTED THAT MINISTER CALLAGHAN HAD CONCLUDED MAY 28 WOULD BE DIFFICULT AND EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE FOR MAY 27 (CALLAGHAN IS HOSTING OECD DINNER EVENING OF MAY 27 AND WILL BE IN THE CHAIR FOR OPENING OECD SESSION AT 10 A.M. MAY 28). FRG REP (KASTRUP) SAID THAT, WHILE FONMIN GENSCHER HAD SLIGHT PREFERENCE FOR MAY 28, MAY 27 WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) HAD NO CURRENT INFORMATION BUT ASSUMED EITHER DATE STILL ACCEPTABLE FOR PARIS. US REP SAID HE AWARE UK HAD ALSO RAISED TIMING QUESTION IN WASHINGTON(COMMENT: UK REP HAD TOLD US MAY 14 THAT THIS HAD BEEN DONE. END COMMENT). NO REPORT ON OUTCOME OF DISCUSSIONS THERE HAD BEEN RECEIVED, HE ADDED. CROMARTIE ASKED THAT CALLAGHAN'S PREFERENCE FOR 27TH BE FORMALLY REPORTED TO CAPITALS.

2. SENIOR LEVEL MEETING. CROMARTIE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD LONDON HAD NO STRONG VIEWS ON WHETHER MEETING SHOULD BE HELD BUT WOULD BE PREPARED PARTICIPATE IF OTHERS SO DESIRED. FRENCH REP ALSO WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS BUT EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT, GIVEN CURRENT ATTEMPT TO MAKE QUAD MEETING MORE EFFECTIVE AND SHORTNESS OF TIME FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION, SENIOR LEVEL MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL, EVEN IF IT HAD TO OCCUR AFTER RATHER THAN BEFORE MINISTERIAL BREAKFAST. US REP REPORTED NO LATER INFORMATION ON US POSITION THAN IN REF B (WHICH WAS COMMUNICATED TO OTHER BONN GROUP REPS ON RECEIPT MORN-ING OF MAY 14) BUT ADDED APROPOS OF FRENCH COMMENT THAT IF BREAKFAST WERE SET FOR 27TH AND IF OTHERS AGREED ON DESIRABILITY OF SENIOR LEVEL MEETING, IT PROBABLY NOW WOULD HAVE TO FOLLOW RATHER THAN PRECEDE BREAKFAST. FRG REP SAID HE COULD NOT COMMIT VAN WELL, WHO WOULD BE THE FRG PARTICIPANT IN SENIOR LEVEL MEETING AND IS NOW CONFIDENTIAL

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OUT OF THE COUNTRY: WORKING LEVEL IN FONOFF WILL CERTAINLY RECOMMEND TO HIM THAT THERE BE A MEETING.

3. COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS. UK REP SAID SENIOR OFFICIAL ACCOMPANYING CALLAGHAN AT BREAKFAST WOULD BE EITHER SIR JOHN KILLICK, DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE, OR MR. H.T. MORGAN, DEPUTY TO KILLICK. OTHERS WOULD BE HEAD OF FCO NEWS DEPARTMENT MCCAFFREY, HEAD OF WE

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DEPARTMENT JAMES, DESK OFFICER FOR BERLIN, LAMBERT, AND ONE OF CALLAGHAN'S PERSONAL ASSISTANTS. FRENCH HAD NO INFORMATION ON PARTICIPANTS. FRG REP ALSO HAD NO FIRM LIST BUT SAID FRG DELEGATION WOULD BE "THE USUAL"--TO INCLUDE VAN WELL, PRESS SPOKESMAN ("PROBABLY" PACHELBEL), LUECKING, A PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO GENSCHER, AND PERHAPS BLECH AS CHIEF OF PLANNING STAFF.

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4. COMMUNIQUE. DESPITE UNCERTAINTY AS TO WHETHER THERE WILL BE A PLACE FOR A PASSAGE ON BERLIN AND GERMANY IN NATO COMMUNIQUE/DECLARATION, FRG REP THOUGHT BONN GROUP SHOULD FOR MOMENT PROCEED ON ASSUMPTION THERE WILL BE A NORMAL COMMUNIQUE (DRAFTS AT NATO ARE GETTING LONGER AND LONGER, HE SAID) AND TRY TO REACH AD REF

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AGREEMENT ON LANGUAGE. UK AGREED WITH THIS APPROACH, BUT CROMARTIE SAID HE FAVORED SHORTER PASSAGE THAN USUAL IN HOPES OF ENHANCING LIKELIHOOD THAT PLACE FOR IT COULD BE FOUND IN WHATEVER EMERGES FROM NATO DISCUSSIONS. AS FRENCH REP SAID HE COULD SAY NOTHING BECAUSE SITUATION IN NATO TOO CONFUSED AT MOMENT, US REP DID NOT USE INSTRUCTIONS IN REF A. US SUGGESTION THAT BONN GROUP DEFER DISCUSSION OF COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE UNTIL NATO SITUATION CLARIFIED WAS NOT ACCEPTED, AND
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GROUP DISCUSSED GERMAN AND FRENCH DRAFTS AT LENGTH BUT INCONCLUSIVELY. SOMEWHAT THEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION CENTERED ON HOW TO FIND FRESH EXPRESSION FOR RELATIONSHIP OF QA AND BERLIN SITUATION TO DETENTE WHICH NEITHER MAKES LINKAGE STRONGER THAN IN PREVIOUS COMMUNIQUES (FRENCH CRITERION) NOR SUGGESTS LESSENED ALLIED CONVICTION IN ESSENTIALITY OF LINKAGE (FRG STARTING POINT). BOTH FRENCH AND GERMANS ARE REDRAFTING.

5. DISCUSSION PAPER FOR QUADRIPARTITE BREAKFAST. CROMARTIE, WHO HAD BEEN IN LONDON PREVIOUS DAY, SAID FCO THOUGHT DRAFT REPORTED REF D SHOULD BE REDUCED TO ABOUT ONE-FOURTH OF PRESENT LENGTH IF MINISTERS EXPECTED TO READ IT, AND THAT EVEN FOR SENIOR LEVEL MEETING PARTICIPANTS IT SHOULD BE SHORTENED. HE WILL NOW ATTEMPT WHAT UK CONSIDERS PROPER MINISTERIAL-LENGTH PAPER, WHILE US REPS ARE MODIFYING AND SLIGHTLY SHORTENING PRESENT PAPER TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT SUBSTANTIVE SUGGESTIONS WHICH EMERGED FROM SECTION-BY-SECTION EXAMINATION. THERE WAS GENERAL VIEW THAT, AFTER GOING OVER THESE NEW DRAFTS AT MAY 16 MEETING, BONN GROUP SHOULD ALSO SINGLE OUT TWO OR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES TO RECOMMEND FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION. ON BASIS OF MAY 15 DISCUSSION, MOST LIKELY CANDIDATES ARE BERLIN'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE EC AND HOW TO RESPOND TO SOVIET HINTS FOR FOUR-POWER CONSULTATIONS (BECAUSE FRENCH, AT LEAST, ARE NOT IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH US POSITION AS EXPRESSED IN STATE 80715). FRENCH REP ALSO INDICATED SAUVAGNARGUES WILL ASK GENSCHER TO COMMENT ON INNER-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS AND FRG RELATIONS WITH USSR AND EE COUNTRIES. KASTRUP FELT SURE GENSCHER WOULD WELCOME ANY QUESTIONS BUT SAID FONOFF FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE ANY ADVANCE LANGUAGE FOR THESE SUBJECTS, LISTED AS AGENDA ITEM II.2; ALLIES ARE CURRENTLY INFORMED ON STATUS OF INNER-GERMAN TALKS, HE SAID, AND STATUS OF OTHER NEGOTIATIONS IS DESCRIBED IN GERMAN BACKGROUND PAPER (TRANSMITTED REF C).
HILLENBRAND

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